Message Text

SECRET

PAGE 01 JIDDA 01149 100503Z ACTION NEA-10

R 091511Z FEB 77 FM AMEMBASSY JIDDA TO SECSTATE WASHDC 7238 INFO USCINCEUR CHUSMTM

SECERTJIDDA 1149

E.O. 11652: GDS TAGS: MASS, SA, US

SUBJECT: F-15'S FOR SAUDI ARABIA

REF: (A) USMTM 081045Z FEB 77 (NOTAL) (B) STATE 28217

1. CHUSMTM HAS RELAYED TO US (REF A) THE FOLLOWING LETTER FROM MINDEF PRINCE SULTAN TO AMBASSADOR PORTER. BEGIN TEXT OF UNOFFICIAL TRANSLATION:

H.E. U.S. AMBASSADOR, JIDDA GRETTINGS:

IN VIEW OF THE GOOD RELATIONSHIP THAT TIES THE U.S. AND SAUDI ARABIA, WE ALWAYS DESIRE THAT MOST OF OUR ARMS PURCHASES BE FROM U.S. PRODUCTION. IN THE LIGHT OF THIS, WE REQUEST THAT YOU CONVEY THE SAUDI GOVERNMENT'S DESIRE--DELEGATED TO THE MINISTRY OF DEFENSE AND AVIATION--TO DISCUSS WITH THE U.S. GOVERNMENT-REPRESENTED BY THE DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE AND THE U.S. AIR FORCE--THE PURCHASE OF FIGHTER PLANES (MODEL F-15) PRODUCED BY MCDONNELL DOUGLAS COMPANY.

I REQUEST THAT YOU TRANSMIT THIS REQUEST TO THE RESPONSIBLE AMERICAN OFFICIALS IN THE U.S. IN ORDER THAT SECRET

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ARRANGEMENTS BE MADE QUICKLY TO BEGIN DISCUSSIONS BETWEEN THE TWO COMMITTEES OF SAUDI ARABIA AND THE U.S. ACCEPT MY GREETINGS.

SULTAN BIN ABD AL AZIZ

END TEXT.

2. PRINCE SULTAN, YOU WILL NOTE, HAS MANAGED AN END-RUN

THROUGH USMTM, TO PUT TEXT OF HIS LETTER IN MY HAND SO TO SPEAK. HOWEVER I DO NTO CONSIDER THIS OFFICIAL LETTER UNLESS OR UNTIL I RECEIVE IT. I SUGGEST NO REPEAT NO REACTION FROM DEPARTMENT OR DOD PENDING FURTHER DEVELOPMENTS.

3. FOR CHUSMTM: I HOPE YOU CAN MANAGE TO AVOID ANY FURTHER DISCUSSION ON THIS MATTER WITH MODA OFFICIALS. PORTER

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NNN

Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X

Capture Date: 01-Jan-1994 12:00:00 am Channel Indicators: n/a

Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED

Concepts: FIGHTER AIRCRAFT, DIPLOMATIC COMMUNICATIONS, MILITARY SALES

Control Number: n/a

Copy: SINGLE Sent Date: 09-Feb-1977 12:00:00 am Decaption Date: 01-Jan-1960 12:00:00 am

Decaption Note: Disposition Action: RELEASED Disposition Approved on Date:
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Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW

Disposition Date: 22 May 2009 Disposition Event:

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Disposition Reason:
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To: STATE Type: TE

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